MINUTES OF MEETING
ISLAND RTPO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March 13, 2014

Attendance List
Arnie Peterschmidt, City of Oak Harbor
Bob Monize, District 3 Citizen Rep.
Brian Wood, District 2 Citizen Rep.
Cac Kamak, City of Oak Harbor
Connie Bowers, Island County
Doug Cox, RTPO Staff
Greg Cane, Town of Coupeville
Nick Pinch, Island Transit
Pete Schrum, Island Transit
Stan Berryman, City of Langley

Members not in Attendance
Brad Johnson, Island County
Curt Gordon, Port of South Whidbey
Don Meehan, District 1 Citizen Rep.

Doug began the meeting at 1:00 PM.

Doug asked if there was a motion to approve the February 13th meeting minutes. Bob made a motion to approve, with Greg seconding. The motion carried.

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Project Selection Criteria:
The group spent the bulk of the meeting discussing their experiences with the recent round of TAP project selections, particularly as to how the scoring criteria worked. Arnie expressed that the criteria seemed to be geared towards projects that improve conditions for motor vehicle and freight travel, and are not particularly useful for ranking the sort of alternative-mode projects that the program funds.

The committee came up with several key themes that they would like to see reflected in future rounds of TAP project selection, which is anticipated for 2016. They suggested looking at the County’s 2006 Non-Motorized Trails Plan as a starting point for developing some specific objectives for TAP projects. Particular themes discussed included:

- reducing conflicts between modes (not the same as “safety” per se)
- improving connectivity (between modes, to/from activity centers, and filling in “missing links”)
- reducing barriers (including perceived / mental barriers)
- Measuring impacts of proposed projects by expected change to its locations’ “walk score”
- Scenic Corridors (scenery is one of our region’s most valuable assets)

The group also discussed whether portions of the funds should be set aside for feasibility studies and for actual project construction. There was no consensus on this issue.
Revised scoring criteria based on this discussion will be developed by RTPO staff and brought to future Island and Skagit TAC meetings for further refinement. Ultimately, each TAC will recommend the proposed revisions to their respective Policy Boards for consideration.

**Surface Transportation Program (STP) call for projects for 2015 and beyond:**
While the Island sub-region aims to develop a 4-to-6 year STP workplan, currently there is only about 1 ½ years' worth of projects identified and another call for projects is needed. Doug proposed a schedule for this next round of STP project selections. The TAC would need to propose any revisions to the scoring criteria at their April 10th meeting, and any changes the committee recommends would then be brought to the Policy Board for discussion at their April 23rd meeting and for approval at their May 28th meeting. The call for projects would be issued shortly after May 28th, with applications due in early July. Applicants would present their projects to the TAC at their July 10th meeting, and the TAC would score the projects at their August 14th meeting. The TAC’s project recommendations would be taken to the Policy Board for approval on August 27th.

The committee did not have any objections to this schedule. Brian asked Doug to provide the current scoring criteria well in advance of the next meeting so members have ample time to consider changes they would like to see. Doug provided this via email immediately after the meeting.

Based on recent STP allocations, the Island sub-region expects to receive approximately $1 Million each year for this program. The goal is for there to be enough project applications to assemble a workplan for the next 4-to-6 years.

**New Items**
Doug discussed the recent public meetings for the Transportation Element of the County’s Comprehensive Plan.

Connie provided status updates for several of the County’s current projects.

Doug concluded the meeting with the announcement that the next TAC meeting will take place at the new Island Transit base outside of Coupeville. The meeting will include a tour of the brand-new facility.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM

**Next Regular TAC Meeting: April 10, 2014 at Island Transit’s new main base!**
### ISLAND COUNTY REGION
### 2014 STP-R RATING SHEET

Project Applicant: 
Project Name: 
STP-R Funds Requested: $

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<th>BETTER USE OF EXISTING FACILITIES</th>
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<td>• Maximizes people-moving and freight-carrying efficiency</td>
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<td>• Enhances economic development through the movement of people and goods</td>
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<th>COORDINATION OF TRANSPORTATION MODES</th>
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<td>• Incorporates multiple modes into a single project</td>
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<th>ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS</th>
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<td>• Improves air quality or noise reductions</td>
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<td>• Provides scenic or historical enhancements</td>
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<td>• Enhances healthy communities</td>
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<th>LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN, AND WHIDBEY SCENIC ISLE WAY CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN CONSISTENCY.</th>
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<th>SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS</th>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>• Incorporates safety features to protect the traveling public</td>
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<th>MULTIPLE PARTICIPATION</th>
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<td>• Maximizes allocations with other funds</td>
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<td>• Participation of other agencies/private partnerships</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Greater than required match</td>
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**Total Points**

Name of scorer: __________________________

Date: __________________________

Updated 08-13-2013 1 of 1
STP PROJECT RATING SHEET
Structural Overlays / Pavement Rehabilitation

Note to Applicant: Describe how your project will meet or address the concerns listed below. Project prioritization will depend primarily on the information provided.

1. PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE NEED  25 pts Max.
   • Preserves right of way corridors
   • Ensures continued movement of people and goods
   
   Note: In situations where ADA facility upgrade requirements are be required, such costs would need to be funded by the local jurisdiction.

2. SURFACE CONDITION  50 pts Max

Total Points __________
SKAGIT METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (SMPO)
SKAGIT-ISLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (SIRTPPO)

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
State Fiscal Year 2015

Adopted by Skagit Sub-RTPO/MPO Policy Board _____
Adopted by Island Sub-RTPO Policy Board _____

Preparation of this document was funded by grants from the Washington State Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and with funds contributed by SIRTPPO’s member jurisdictions.
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MPO/RTPO OVERVIEW

Through federal legislation, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) exist throughout the United States in all urbanized areas with populations greater than 50,000 people. MPOs are given the authority to prioritize, plan and program transportation projects for federal funding in metropolitan areas.

Skagit MPO (SMPO) is the federally designated planning organization for local and county agencies in Skagit County. In coordination with United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), local elected leadership, local transportation planners and engineers, the business community and citizens in the planning area, Skagit MPO leads the development of the region’s long-range transportation plan and short-range Transportation Improvement Program.

Through Washington State legislation, Regional Transportation Organizations (RTPOs) were authorized as part of the 1990 Growth Management Act. Skagit-Island RTPO (SIRTPO) involves cities, towns, counties, transit agencies, tribes, ports, private employers, and WSDOT with preparing a Regional Transportation Plan, certifying that countywide planning policies and local transportation elements are consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan and maintaining a six-year Regional Transportation Improvement Program.

Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG), comprised member agencies from throughout Skagit County, serves as the lead planning agency for SMPO as enabled by federal law 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C. 5303 of the Federal Transportation Act. SCOG also serves as the lead planning agency for the Skagit sub-RTPO, as enabled by Washington State law (RCW 47.80). Island County is the lead planning agency for the Island Sub-RTPO. The SMPO, SIRTPO, and the Skagit and Island Sub-RTPO Policy Boards are their own decision-making bodies.

MPO and RTPO planning activities are funded by grants from the USDOT, WSDOT and local governments through regional dues. The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is adopted annually and serves as the organizations’ budget and work program. The efforts of SCOG and Island County ensure that local and regional transportation projects are eligible for federal transportation funding.

For a listing of the membership of various boards, refer to Appendix A: Board Membership. For a graphical representation of the Board structure, refer to Appendix B: Board Structure. For a map of SMPO and SIRTPO planning areas, see Appendix C: SMPO & SIRTPO Planning Areas.

UPWP OVERVIEW

This UPWP documents the transportation planning work activities and related tasks to be accomplished during the state fiscal year (SFY) 2015 (July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015). The activities identified in the UPWP are planned in accord with regional policies, goals and objectives. While direction and approval of work program activities are independently authorized by the respective Policy Boards in Island and Skagit County, the UPWP and the annual budget are consolidated and are approved in final form by the respective Policy Boards.

This document outlines federal and state planning requirements and presents a work program of planning activities to address the requirements during SFY 2015. The work activities in the UPWP are organized into four program elements:

- Element 1: Administration
- Element 2: Multi-Modal Planning
- Element 3: Project Programming & Prioritization
- Element 4: Data Collection & Analysis
FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS

PLANNING FACTORS AND FEDERAL INITIATIVES

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) describes Federal Planning Factors issued by Congress to emphasize planning factors from a national perspective. The eight planning factors are as follows:

1. Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
2. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
3. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
4. Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and for freight.
5. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
6. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, people and freight.
7. Promote efficient system management and operation.
8. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.

Each of the federal planning factors is addressed through various work activities selected for SFY 2015, as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Factor/UPWP Element</th>
<th>Economic Vitality</th>
<th>System Safety</th>
<th>System Security</th>
<th>Accessibility</th>
<th>Protect Environment</th>
<th>Integration of System</th>
<th>Efficiency</th>
<th>System Preservation</th>
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<td>Data Collection &amp; Analysis</td>
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STATE PLANNING EMPHASIS AREAS (RTPO)

The Washington State Legislature has identified policy goals for the planning, operation, performance of, and investment in, the state’s transportation system (RCW 47.04.280). Public investments in infrastructure should support the achievement of these policy goals:

1. Economic Vitality – To promote and develop transportation systems that stimulate, support, and enhance the movement of people and goods to ensure a prosperous economy.
2. Preservation – To maintain, preserve, and extend the life and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and services.
3. Safety – To provide for and improve the safety and security of transportation customer and the transportation system.
4. Mobility – To improve the predictable movement of goods and people throughout Washington State.
5. Environment – To enhance Washington’s quality of life through transportation investments that promote energy conservation, enhance healthy communities, and protect the environment.
6. Stewardship – To continuously improve the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the transportation system.

Each of the Washington State transportation system policy goals is addressed through various work activities selected for SFY 2015, as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Factor/UPWP Element</th>
<th>Economic Vitality</th>
<th>Preservation</th>
<th>Safety</th>
<th>Mobility</th>
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<th>Stewardship</th>
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<td>Administration</td>
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Among the primary RTPO responsibilities (RCW 47.80.023) is preparing a regional transportation plan that is consistent with countywide planning policies and county, city and town comprehensive plans. Other tasks include preparing a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), developing a Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP), and developing regionally consistent level of service standards. All of these duties are addressed in work activities in the UPWP. For a graphical representation of some of the work activities identified in the UPWP, refer to Appendix D: Core Programs and Functions.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Federal and State legislation require MPOs and RTPOs to include provisions in the planning process to ensure the involvement of the public in the development of the RTP, TIP, and the UPWP. The SCOG Public Participation Plan (PPP) requires that all plans and documents are made available to the public online and at the SCOG office.
FUNDING SOURCES FOR PLANNING ACTIVITIES

All work, including staff time and consultant activities, listed in the UPWP are funded by one or more of the following funding sources:

**FHWA SECTION 112 GRANT FUNDS ("PL," OR METROPOLITAN PLANNING FUNDS)**
Federal planning funds can be used for up to 86.5% of a project, with a required 13.5% match typically provided by local government dues.

**FTA SECTION 5303 GRANT FUNDS**
Section 5303 funds are federal funds designated for transit planning and research activities. SCOG uses a local match of 13.5% based on an agreement with WSDOT.

**FTA SECTION 5310 GRANT FUNDS**
WSDOT apportions Section 5310 funds to MPOs and RTPOs to aid HSTP plan development and implementation. These funds do not have a local match requirement.

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (STP) GRANT FUNDS**
The STP provides flexible funding that may be used by states and localities for projects to preserve and improve the transportation system consistent with regional priorities. Funds are allocated to SCOG and Island County for regional project prioritization and selection or to supplement the efforts of the MPO and RTPO. STP funds can be used for up to 86.5% of a project with a required match of 13.5%.

**RTPO GRANT FUNDS**
The State of Washington allocates funds to all RTPOs in the state in order to perform the required planning activities. These funds do not have a local match requirement.

**NORTH SOUND CONNECTING COMMUNITIES PROJECT (NSCCP)**
These funds are from a grant program to be used for multi-modal planning at a five county level (Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties). These funds do not have a local match requirement.
The Skagit and Island sub-regions share a long history of strong cooperation that has facilitated various notable accomplishments since the mid-1990s. With the support of local agencies and WSDOT, the SMPO and SIRTP were able to fulfill the majority of tasks in the 2014 UPWP despite a constrained budget. Accomplishments to note include the following:

**MPO/RTPO**
- 2013 UPWP Annual Report
- 2015 UPWP Development
- Administered Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) selection criteria and regional prioritization process
- Allocated TAP funds to regional projects
- Adopted the 2014-2017 TIP in October 2013
- Managed the FFY 2014-2017 TIP through formal amendments and administrative modifications
- Published Annual Listing of Federally Obligated Projects for calendar year 2013
- Maintained regional travel demand model and assisted local jurisdictions with transportation modeling and operational analysis
- Developed updated governance documents

**MPO**
- Completed Title VI Update and Accomplishment Report
- Completed Demographic Profile of Skagit County
- Completed MPO self-certification process
- Administered Surface Transportation Program (STP) selection criteria and regional prioritization process
- Allocated STP funds to regional projects
- Updated SCOQ website
- Developed Skagit Council of Governments agreement for member agencies
- Continued work on the Skagit Regional Non-Motorized Plan
- Conducted over 500 traffic counts
- Completed Skagit industrial lands inventory

**ISLAND SUB-RTP**
- Began the scheduled update to the Transportation Element of the Island County Comprehensive Plan
- Administered Surface Transportation Program (STP) selection criteria and regional prioritization process
- Allocated STP funds to regional projects
- Implemented radar feedback signage improvement projects on Whidbey Island
- Coordinated with WSDOT Ferries, City of Mukilteo and other agencies on the Mukilteo Multimodal Ferry Project
- Assisted Island County and local agencies with commute trip reduction efforts
- Completed a report on historic roads in Island County
ELEMENT 1: ADMINISTRATION

This work element focuses on all aspects of agency and personnel management, Policy Board support, meeting coordination, budgeting, transportation and land use policy development and review, and annual work program reporting and development.

For a cost estimate by work task, refer to Error! Reference source not found., near the end of this document. For a summary of expenditures and revenue by fund type, refer to Error! Reference source not found., also near the end of this document.

WORK ACTIVITIES

MPO/RTPO

1.1 MPO/RTPO Administration

Description: Manage and administer the work program, including work program development, schedule, budget, progress and evaluation reports and related documentation. Administration will also include assuring compliance with rules and regulations of funding agencies. Supervise staff, personnel activities; procure office supplies and furniture, etc. Review and update contracts and agreements. Clerical support for general administration and other work program elements. Procurement of software and hardware, and other technologies and devices as needed. Update and maintain SCOG and Island RTPO websites. Attendance at monthly Policy Board meetings, Technical Advisory Committee meetings, and other committee meetings as needed. Coordinate and consult with other MPOs and RTPOs on federal, state, and regional transportation issues. Prepare 2015 operating budget. Provide continuing education and training opportunities through webinars, conferences and seminars as appropriate. Prepare the annual self-certification that specifies that MPO functions are being performed in accordance with all applicable requirements.

Responsibilities: SCOG (Lead), Island County

Product: In November, staff will prepare 2015 SCOG operating budget. The budget will be adopted prior to calendar year 2015. Also in November, SCOG will submit its self-certification documentation.

Direct Cost: Technology-related (hardware, software, website, etc.) direct costs are expected to total up to $5,000. Training costs are expected to total up to $10,000.

1.2 UPWP Annual Development and Reporting

Description: Creation of the 2014 UPWP Annual Report per 23 CFR 420.117. Creation of the 2016 Skagit-Island UPWP in cooperation with Island County, WSDOT, Skagit Transit, Island Transit, FHWA and FTA.

Responsibilities: SCOG (Lead), Island County, Skagit Transit, Island Transit, WSDOT

Product: SMPO and SIRTPO will prepare the 2014 UPWP annual report in July/August 2014 and the 2016 UPWP in the spring of 2015.

1.3 Public Participation

Description: Facilitate public involvement and outreach efforts in accordance with the Title VI plan and Public Participation Plans. Update the Public Participation Plan in SFY 2015.

Responsibilities: SCOG (Lead), Skagit Transit, Island County, consultant

Product: Development of an updated PPP which is tentatively planned to be adopted in the fourth quarter of calendar year 2014.
**Direct Cost:** SCOG anticipates spending $30,000 for consultant services to update the Public Participation Plan, continue public outreach after Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan adoption, and begin public outreach for the Regional Transportation Plan which will be adopted in calendar year 2015.

### 1.4 Governance

**Description:** Review of the SIRTPO governance structure and related bylaws. Develop Memorandum(s) of Agreement with WSDOT and Skagit Transit per 23 CFR 450.314. Coordinate with WSDOT and local tribes to develop a Tribal Consultation Plan.

**Responsibilities:** SCOG (Lead), Island County, WSDOT

**Product:** Updated bylaws and governance documents for SIRTPO tentatively set for adoption by member agencies in the fourth quarter of calendar year 2014. Memorandum(s) of Agreement will be established with WSDOT, and Skagit Transit in the third quarter of calendar year 2014. A Tribal Consultation Plan, if necessary, is tentatively set for adoption in the fourth quarter of calendar year 2014.

### 1.5 Legislator Contact

**Description:** Develop and submit Public Disclosure Commission Reports as required. This report identifies all contact with State legislators. All expenses in meeting with federal and state elected and administration officials are paid using local funds. Historically, SCOG has visited state legislators in the first month or two of the Washington State Legislature’s Regular Session. Other contact may occur but it is unknown when this will happen.

**Responsibilities:** SCOG (Lead)

**Product:** Quarterly Public Disclosure Commission Reports as necessary.

### MPO

#### 1.6 Title VI Annual Report

**Description:** Report on Title VI Plan implementation activities through the annual Title VI Update and Accomplishment Report.

**Responsibilities:** SCOG (Lead)

**Product:** The Title VI Annual Report will be submitted in August 2014.
ELEMENT 2: MULTI-MODAL PLANNING

This work program element focuses on the development, ongoing maintenance and update of the Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The latest RTP was adopted in April 2011. Planning projects that are anticipated are detailed in this section.

For a cost estimate by work task, refer to Error! Reference source not found., near the end of this document. For a summary of expenditures and revenue by fund type, refer to Error! Reference source not found., also near the end of this document.

WORK ACTIVITIES

MPO/RTPO

2.1 Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plan

Description: The Skagit-Island Metropolitan/Regional Transportation Plan was last adopted in April of 2011. The next scheduled update is in August 2015. The RTP and any required environmental documents will be developed in cooperation with members, stakeholders and the public, during SFY 2015. Careful review of the MAP-21 requirements will ensure that essential processes will be incorporated into the development of the plan. Public Participation strategy will be developed as part of a consulting contract that will include a new or updated Public Participation Plan for SCOG, outreach strategy for implementation and coordination with groups specifically related to the HSTP, and outreach plan/strategy for the RTP 2015 update.

Responsibilities: SCOG (Lead), Island County

Product: A draft of the Regional Transportation Plan will be available for public review at the end of SFY 2015.

2.2 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan

Description: In partnership with Skagit Transit, Island Transit, non-profit special needs transportation providers, tribes and other stakeholders, SCOG will prepare the 2014 Skagit-Island Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan.

Responsibilities: SCOG (Lead), Island County, consultant

Product: Adoption of the 2014 HSTP update by December 31, 2014. A consultant will be hired to prepare the plan update. SCOG will serve as project manager.

Direct Cost: The anticipated consultant cost will be $30,000, which is a carry forward from SFY 2014.

2.3 Washington State Transportation Plan

Description: Participate in the implementation of the Washington Transportation Plan (WTP) where consistent with regional transportation policy priorities, including:

  a. Coordination with WSDOT on investment priorities identified in the WTP which are of mutual interest.
  b. Coordination with other Washington MPOs/RTPOs on investment priorities identified in the WTP that are of mutual interest.
  c. Cooperation with WSDOT in ongoing efforts to communicate WTP priorities to elected officials and citizens within the region.
  d. Participation in statewide planning activities such as the WTP and rail planning.

Responsibilities: SCOG (Lead), Island County
Product: Participation in statewide transportation plans and program development as the need arises.

2.4 Transportation Planning

Description: Assist local agencies with local planning efforts. Support the development of a regional economic development strategy.

Planning studies anticipated to occur in SFY 2015:
- Skagit Transit Maintenance, Operations, and Administration Facility Feasibility Study
- WSDOT Climate Change Adaptation Study
- Bon-Air Access Feasibility Study
- Cross Island Road/West Camano Drive Feasibility Study
- Whidbey Air Park Access Feasibility Study
- Clinton to Langley Trail Feasibility Study
- Midvale Trail Feasibility Study

Responsibilities: SCOG, Island County, Skagit Transit

Product: SCOG and Island County will also assist with other local planning efforts as needed. This is an ongoing work task.

2.5 North Sound Connecting Communities Project

Description: As the lead agency for the North Sound Connecting Communities Project (Farmhouse Gang), SCOG will administer the program. SCOG currently has a contract with Whatcom Council of Governments to aid the administration of the program. A small amount of SIRTPO staff time may be dedicated to this program in the multimodal planning element as well.

Responsibilities: SCOG (Lead), Island County

Product: Quarterly Farmhouse Gang meetings. Staff support for additional multimodal planning activities that the Farmhouse Gang performs.

Direct Cost: The agreement with WCOG is not to exceed $15,000 in calendar year 2014.

2.6 Transportation Element Consistency

Description: Certify that the transportation element of city/county comprehensive plans and countywide planning policies meet the following requirements:

a. Reflect the transportation guidelines and principles established in the Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plans and be consistent with the adopted plans.

b. Conform to the requirements of RCW 36.70A.070.

c. Reflect consistency to the countywide planning policies adopted under RCW 36.70A.210 and the adopted regional transportation plan.

Responsibilities: SCOG, Island County

Product: Certification of local transportation elements.

MPO

2.7 Title VI, Limited English Proficiency and Environmental Justice Implementation

Description: SCOG will review planning, programming and projects to ensure that SCOG decisions do not have a disproportionate negative impact on protected populations. SCOG will maintain a Title VI complaint log and implement the adopted Title VI Plan to ensure nondiscrimination in SCOG’s Transportation Program.

Responsibilities: SCOG (Lead)
Product: Ensuring nondiscrimination in the Transportation Program is an ongoing work task. Work products developed throughout the year to ensure non-discrimination will be reported through the Title VI Annual Update and Accomplishments Report which will be submitted in August 2014.

2.8 Skagit County Rail Crossing Study

Description: Develop a methodology to assess at-grade rail crossings within Skagit County. The study would develop a set of analytical questions the methodology would strive to answer and test the methodology on one or more at-grade crossings. The methodology would allow assessment of all at-grade crossings to assist in determining where existing and future problems are likely to occur and provide a framework to prioritizing at-grade crossing to be included in plans or programs.

Responsibilities: SCOG, consultant

Product: A report detailing the methodology developed, analysis of rail road crossings, and recommended solutions or next steps. The anticipated completion will be in the first quarter of calendar year 2015.

Direct Cost: $45,000 for consulting services

2.9 Industrial Lands Survey

Description: This task integrates transportation and economic development planning related to industrial lands within Skagit County. In addition, the analysis and recommendations will likely have an effect on growth planning.

SCOG has coordinated and participated in the industrial lands survey being led by the Port of Skagit. The study assessed the current supply of industrial land in Skagit County and determined whether this supply is sufficient to meet the current and future demand for industries. The survey included transportation infrastructure available to support industrial lands. It is anticipated that additional work will occur in SFY 2015 based on the completed work in SFY 2014.

Responsibilities: SCOG (Lead)

Product: An updatable inventory was completed in SFY 2014 that can be used to track the available industrial land base over time and to market Skagit County industrial land to prospective employers. Work in SFY 2015 will likely be more in-depth assessment of infrastructure needs and market factors for various types of employers and industrial land including the possible infrastructure needs.

Direct Cost: Consultant support of up to $10,000.

ISLAND SUB-RTP

2.10 Transportation Element Update

Description: Update to the Transportation Element of the County Comprehensive Plan.

Responsibilities: Island County (Lead), SCOG, consultant

Product: The consultant contract will include development of the Transportation Element for Island County. Update the SIRTPO travel demand model, and provide a long-range economic forecast for Island and Skagit County.

The expected completion date is by December, 2014.

Direct Cost: The anticipated consultant cost will be $75,000 and be overseen by Island County.
ELEMENT 3: PROJECT PROGRAMMING & PRIORITIZATION

PURPOSE

Federal and state regulations guide the development and management of the programming of federally funded and other regionally significant transportation improvement projects over a four to six-year period. The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is updated annually, and is amended on an as-needed basis throughout the year. The TIP is effectively an ongoing process of programming federal, state, and local expenditures to implement the regional planning goals and state and federal planning emphasis areas.

For a cost estimate by work task, refer to Error! Reference source not found., near the end of this document. For a summary of expenditures and revenue by fund type, refer to Error! Reference source not found., also near the end of this document.

SFY 2014 WORK ACTIVITIES

MPO/RTPO

3.1 Regional Project Prioritization

Description: Maintain a financially feasible four-year transportation improvement program, including a two year list of contingency projects, for regionally significant projects.

a. Develop the annual Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); transmit applicable projects to WSDOT for inclusion in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

b. As projects change in funding status or description, prepare amendments to the TIP in order to program federal funds that become secured or prioritized throughout the year.

c. Develop TIP project identification, prioritization, and selection procedures with the goal of programming projects using regionally-managed funds (Surface Transportation Program and Transportation Alternatives Program) for all four years of the TIP.

d. Document and publish an annual listing of obligated projects.

e. Submit a self-certification to WSDOT, FHWA, and FTA that all applicable state and federal guidelines are being followed.

f. Track regionally managed fund (STP and TAP) project delivery to ensure that annual regional obligation targets are met.

g. Coordinate process for prioritization of special needs transportation projects for Island and Skagit counties.

Responsibilities: SCOG (Lead), Island County

Product: The 2015 TIP will be adopted by the MPO and RTPO Policy Boards in the fourth quarter of calendar year 2014.

Process TIP amendments as needed.

Develop changes to the project selection process as needed.

An annual listing of obligated projects will be posted to the SCOG website in the first quarter of calendar year 2015.

SCOG will submit a self-certification to WSDOT, FHWA and FTA in the fourth quarter of calendar year 2014.

SCOG will submit a regional list of prioritized special needs transportation projects to WSDOT in the fourth quarter of calendar year 2014.
A regional travel demand model is used to inform transportation policy decisions. Varying funding and project scenarios can be run to establish a reasonable estimate of what the regional transportation needs will be in the future. The RTP is based on the development of the regional transportation model. Similarly, member agencies utilize the regional model in the development of their transportation elements of their comprehensive plans.

SCOG maintains databases of regional transportation, employment, and housing data. These primarily serve as inputs to the regional transportation demand model but also serve as a valuable resource for information. Member agencies are able to access data that would be difficult for them to maintain individually due to budget and staffing constraints.

For a cost estimate by work task, refer to Error! Reference source not found., near the end of this document. For a summary of expenditures and revenue by fund type, refer to Error! Reference source not found., also near the end of this document.

WORK ACTIVITIES

MPO/RTPO

4.1 Performance Metrics

**Description:** In cooperation with WSDOT and guidance from USDOT in response to Section 1203 of MAP-21, SCOG will develop state and local performance measures and performance targets. The MAP-21 Implementation Schedule identifies the approximate time frame for setting and adopting performance measures for all categories.

**Responsibilities:** SCOG (Lead), Island County

**Product:** Performance measures that will be incorporated into the metropolitan transportation planning process.

4.2 Travel Demand Model

**Description:** In SFY 2015 an update to the travel demand model will be completed in preparation for the 2015 RTP update and for use in the development of local comprehensive plans. SCOG has hired a consultant to assist with the model update.

**Responsibilities:** SCOG (Lead), Island County, consultant

**Product:** The result of this work activity will be an updated transportation demand model predicted to be completed in the third quarter of calendar year 2014.

**Direct Cost:** $40,000 will be used for consultant services to update the model. This line item is carried over from the previous UPWP.

4.3 Transportation Data

**Description:** This task includes a continuation of our annual agreement with Skagit County to perform traffic counting services for jurisdictions within Skagit County. Initiate conversations with Island County to make a similar agreement for traffic counts on Whidbey and Camano Islands. Continue to maintain inventory of traffic and vehicle classification counts and travel time studies from all available sources; store data and make available in electronic format.

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) is planning on conducting a regional household survey in the spring of 2014. Both Island and Skagit Counties are interested in participating with PSRC on the survey. The household survey data would assist in updating the travel demand model and providing data for
analysis for the RTP, particularly in understanding more about travel behavior between Skagit and Island Counties and the Puget Sound Counties.

**Responsibilities:** SCOG (Lead), Island County.

**Product:** Maintain library of current traffic counts for Skagit County. Counts will be done throughout the year on both a scheduled and as-needed basis. All counts, travel time information, and transit ridership data will be made available and maintained in an electronic library.

**Direct Cost:** The anticipated consultant cost will be $24,000 for traffic counts.

### 4.4 GIS and Mapping

**Description:** Maintain current demographic, roadway infrastructure and other spatial data for mapping and GIS applications. Produce maps and conduct geospatial analysis as necessary to support the work program.

**Responsibilities:** SCOG (Lead)

**Product:** Provide GIS data and maps as necessary. This is an ongoing work task.

### 4.5 Highway Functional Classification

**Description:** Update, review and process requests for modifications of the federal highway functional classification system within the region, as required.

**Responsibilities:** SCOG, Island County

**Product:** Updated urban areas and functional classification maps. This work will be done on an as-needed basis.
1. Coast to Cascades Corridor Study. Currently there is no clear way for non-motorized travelers to travel west from Mount Vernon/Burlington to Anacortes. This corridor study would identify the preferred route to develop for non-motorized use.

   Estimated cost of $100,000.

SCOG will seek funding opportunities for this project. Possible sources of funding this work item include STP funds or other special grants.
## SFY 2015 Unified Planning Work Program Proposed Budget

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*RTPO Planning Funds are an apportionment to SIRTPO. The funds are distributed to Skagit and Island Sub-RTPO’s based on work program cost estimates.

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**Numbers are rounded.**
For more information or to request a copy of this document, please contact:

Kevin Murphy, Executive Director  
Skagit Council of Governments  
204 West Montgomery Street  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
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kevinm@scog.net

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Island sub-Region RTPO  
P.O. Box 5000  
Coupeville, WA 98239  
(360) 678-7959  
d.cox@co.island.wa.us
Appendix A: BOARD MEMBERSHIP

SKAGIT METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (SMPO)/SKAGIT SUB-REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD (SKAGIT SUB-RTP)

The primary function of the MPO/RTPO Board is to coordinate with the state and local governments and public transportation operators in developing policy, transportation plans, and programs within the MPO/RTPO boundaries. This transportation planning process results in policy, plans and programs coordinated with local land use plans. In addition, the plans provide for the development of transportation facilities that are consistent with the RTP. This Skagit MPO/RTPO Board also serves as the Skagit Sub-RTPO Board.

BOARD MEMBER JURISDICTIONS:

City of Anacortes          Port of Skagit County         Town of La Conner
City of Burlington         Port of Anacortes            Town of Lyman
City of Mount Vernon       Swinomish Tribal Community
City of Sedro-Woolley      Samish Indian Nation
Skagit County              Town of Concrete
Skagit Transit             Town of Hamilton

GEOGRAPHIC PLANNING AREA: Urbanized area of Skagit County made up of the cities of Mount Vernon, Burlington, Sedro-Woolley and their respective Urban Growth Areas, portions of Skagit County and Port of Skagit.

SKAGIT-ISLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (SIRTPO) POLICY BOARD

The Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization (SIRTPO) is a combination of the Skagit sub-RTPO and the Island sub-RTPO’s, to serve as a forum to identify, study, and discuss regional transportation issues. SCOG is the lead agency for the Skagit sub-RTPO and Island County is the lead agency for the Island sub-RTPO who administers their own program and provides reporting on their own, and in partnership with SCOG. SCOG acts as the lead reporting agency for both sub-RTPO’s when necessary such as with the Skagit-Island RTP, Skagit-Island Regional TIP or the Skagit-Island Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) and any other joint ventures.

SKAGIT BOARD MEMBER JURISDICTIONS:

City of Anacortes          Skagit Transit          Town of Concrete
City of Burlington         Port of Anacortes         Town of Hamilton
City of Mount Vernon       Port of Skagit County   Town of La Conner
City of Sedro-Woolley      Swinomish Tribal Community
Skagit County              Samish Indian Nation
Skagit Transit             Town of Concrete

ISLAND BOARD MEMBER JURISDICTIONS:

City of Oak Harbor         Town of Coupeville    Port Districts (alternate)
Island County              City of Langley        Island Transit

GEOGRAPHIC PLANNING AREA: All of Skagit and Island counties.

ISLAND SUB-REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (ISLAND SUB-RTP) POLICY BOARD

The Island sub-RTPO serves as a mutual forum to identify, discuss study and bring into focus sub-regional transportation challenges and opportunities. The Island sub-RTPO Policy Board is the countywide decision-making body for the sub-RTPO and is made up of the jurisdictions listed below.
BOARD MEMBER JURISDICTIONS:

Town of Coupeville  Island Transit  South Whidbey Port District
Coupeville Port District  City of Langley  WSDOT
Island County  City of Oak Harbor  Washington State Ferries

GEOGRAPHIC AREA: All of Island County.

NORTH SOUND CONNECTING COMMUNITIES PROJECT (FARMHOUSE GANG)

SCOG is the lead agency for this project which is a coalition of elected, agency and citizen representatives from the five North Sound Counties (Whatcom, Skagit, Island, San Juan, and Snohomish). Together they work on regional planning that includes highway, rail/freight, transit, non-motorized transportation and ferry issues. This project is funded through a High Priority Project grant and supported by public and private partnerships. The goal of the Farmhouse Gang is to study and support ways that transportation systems work together to provide options and access to residents in the region. SCOG will be seeking funding for a second phase of the Farmhouse Gang as funding is available.

MEMBERSHIP: Public and private stakeholders within the North Sound Counties of the Puget Sound area.

GEOGRAPHIC PLANNING AREA: Whatcom, Skagit, Island, San Juan, and Snohomish Counties.
Appendix B: BOARD STRUCTURE

- Skagit Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMPO)
  - Skagit Council of Governments (SCO) Lead Planning Agency
  - Skagit Sub-Regional Transportation Planning Organization (Skagit RTPO) Policy Board
- Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization (SIRTPO)
  - Skagit Island RTPO Policy Board
  - Island Sub-Regional Transportation Planning Organization (Island RTPO) Policy Board
- Island County Lead Planning Agency
- North Sound Connecting Communities Project (NCSSP)
## Core Programs and Functions

### Administration
- Administrative Tasks
- Training
- Annual Budget
- Contract and Grant Management
- Unified Planning Work Program
- Public Involvement and Outreach
- Governance
- Establish Memorandums of Understanding
  - Title VI Annual Report

### Planning
- MTP/RTP
- Human Services Transportation Plan
- Transportation Planning
- Regional Transportation Plan Consistency
- Environmental Justice
- Rail Crossing Study
- Industrial Lands Survey
- Transportation Element Update

### Programming
- MTIP/RTIP
- Amendments to MTIP/RTIP
- Selection of Regional Project Priorities
- Annual List of Obligated Projects

### Modeling/Data Management
- Performance Metrics
- Travel Demand Model Update
- Transportation Data
- GIS and Mapping
- Highway Functional Classification

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**MPO (Federal)**
**RTPO (State)**
**MPO and RTPO**